

MAINE FARMER

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

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OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN.

MATTRESSES OF COTTON AND WOOL.

During the hot part of the season, and, indeed, during the whole year, there is no bed more conducive to health than what is called a mattress. The best of these are made of hair or prepared as to be elastic, and to keep that elasticity for a long time. Some are made of the long moss that grows on the trees in the southern forests, but these soon become compressed, and lose their elasticity. Recently, cotton has been used for this purpose; and still more recently, wool has been recommended. We made mention of the fact that wool had been recommended for mattresses, in our last. We shall now give such information as we have respecting the preparation of both articles for bedding, in order that those of our readers who wish to give them a trial may have something to guide them in their operations.

COTTON BEDS. In the Report of the Commissioner of Patents, for 1844, we find cotton recommended for beds, on the strength of a communication published in the "Jackson Southern." The writer says that the considerations which recommend this kind of bed, are, superior cleanliness; vermin will not abide it; there is no grease in it, as in hair or wool; it does not get stale, and acquires an unpleasant odor, as feathers often do, to eradicate which it is often necessary to put them into an oven and have them re-dried; moths do not infest it as they do wool and feathers; it does not pack, and become hard, as moss does; nor does it become dry and brittle and dusty, as hay, straw, or husks.

It is cheap, and the most easy and healthful bed of any, and possesses, over feathers, the advantage that it does not cause that lassitude and inertia produced by sleeping upon the latter.

Another writer makes the following statements, founded, as he says, on his own experience.

COST OF A HAIR MATTRESS. They are generally sold by the pound, from fifty to seventy-five cents per pound—thirty or forty pounds will cost from fifteen to twenty dollars.

WOOL. Forty pounds of wool at thirty cents, will be twelve dollars—ticking and labor of making will add to this cost.

FEATHERS. Forty pounds at thirty cents, twelve dollars—ticking and labor will bring it up to from fifteen to twenty dollars.

MOSS MATTRESSES. Ready made, twelve dollars.

COTTON. Thirty pounds of cotton at eight cents per pound, two dollars and forty cents—twelve yards of ticking, at a shilling per yard, two dollars—labor, thread, &c., two dollars and seventy-five cents—total, seven dollars and fifteen cents.

In point of cheapness, says he, the cotton is far preferable; in durability, it is equal, if not superior to any of them. Six years' use of them convinces me of the fact.

MODE OF MAKING. The mode proposed for making them, is to take layers of cotton batting and place them between envelopes of calico or muslin. An improvement has been suggested of gumming or glazing each side of these layers, as the wadding for cloaks is prepared. A patent has been taken out for making them with a layer of hair between the battings.

WOOL MATTRESSES. In the Report of the Commissioner of Patents, of the doings of last year, (1847) we find a communication from Mr. Anerson of Ashley, Pike county, Missouri, on wool mattresses. He is quite enthusiastic on the subject. He observes, that the human species are obliged to repair, by sleep and repose, the fatigues of the body, every sixteen hours, at least, so that even the laborious pass more than a third part of their lives in bed; the idle, fashionable and luxurious, and women, nearly half their time; and children, in health, sleep most of their time; therefore it is of the utmost consequence what kind of bed we lie upon. The harder the bed, in reason, the healthier we are. Wool mattresses give this hardness and firmness, at the same time yield sufficiently to the pressure of our bodies, and form an agreeable and luxurious bed, and wool does not make marks on the skin, or relax as other bedding. All great men, warriors, heroes, &c., who have made any noise in the world from Charles XI to Napoleon, always slept upon a hard bed. People may be convinced of the impropriety of lying long in soft beds, by knowing that a sound man, in one night of seven hours' sleep, generally perspires fifty ounces of perspiration, or four pounds dry weight. This we cannot wonder at, since there are above three hundred thousand millions of pores in the body of a middle sized man, and that in the last hours of sleep one perspires most. Hence the impropriety and the weakness of lying too long in a soft bed, and the necessity of lying on a comparatively hard and elastic bed, such as a wool mattress.

In France, wool mattresses are generally adopted, consequently you never meet with a bad bed there. I have traveled all over France, and never met with a bad bed—and a very recent and intelligent traveler mentions, on his removal from England to France, that he found the French beds delicious, because the beds are wool mattresses.

MODE OF MAKING WOOL MATTRESSES. The first thing to constitute a good, healthy bed is, that it must be absolutely flat, therefore all bedsteads should have wooden laths instead

of sacking, which always forms and gives a hollow. The wool is carded (into bats) and all knots and extraneous matter taken out. The great point is to make it thick enough. The best bed I ever slept in had sixty pounds of wool in it, but the bed was of a very large extra size. Half that quantity will make a common bed, but if you wish to lie luxuriously and yet hard, do not stint the wool; it lasts forever. The covering is washed once a year—the wool carded and few pounds added, and the bed is sweet and new.

We think it would be an improvement on Mr. Anerson's system of making wool beds, to form them as recommended above in making cotton beds—viz., have a layer of cloth between the layers of wool batting, and perhaps a stitch put through occasionally to keep the wool in its place and prevent its crowding or packing together.

Wool is cheap this year, and it is a favorable time, for those who have the article to spare, to try the experiment.

THE APPLE TREE BORER.

Not long since we called the attention of our readers to that destructive insect, the borer; and gave such facts and hints in regard to preventing its ravages as occurred to us. In looking over some reports published by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, eighteen years ago, we find the following communication from Daniel Prouty, of Haverhill, Mass., stating his mode of preventing its ravages. As his plan may be more convenient to follow by some than others recommended, we republish it.

"The cheapest and most effectual mode of extirpating the borer that attacks the apple tree, which has come to my knowledge, is the application of sharp, coarse gravel, applied as follows, to wit, dig off the turf four inches deep, six inches to a foot from the tree; spread about half a common cart load of the afore-described gravel so as to come close in contact with the tree. This article the borer dislikes, and immediately makes his escape. This has been entirely and completely successful in my orchard for three years past."

This is probably a good method of preventing the borer from burrowing at the foot of the tree and depositing its eggs; but then, when plenty, they do not refuse to deposit an egg occasionally higher up in the body of the tree, and sometimes on the limbs.

DOUBLE GILLIFLOWERS.

Ladies and others who cultivate flowers are always pleased when they obtain a handsome double flowering gilliflower. We find in Hovey's Magazine for June, an extract from a European magazine, showing how M. Louis Mullet saves seeds that will always produce double flowers. Choose only those seeds which are attached to the flower stem at the same height, that is to say, opposite each other or in whorls of three or four. The seeds which these opposing pods contain will produce plants bearing double flowers, while those placed alternately on the flower stem, one above the other, in the natural way, generally contain those which will bring single flowers.

THE POTATO ROT. H. Butman, Esq., of Dixmont, Me., writes to the editor of the Boston Cultivator as follows: "A neighbor of mine took occasion to plough his stubble field, immediately adjoining his potato patch (in the month of August last.) His ploughman either intentionally or by accident, turned his furrow on to and effectually covering the outer row of his potatoes, which were then luxuriant and promising; they were allowed to remain so until harvest time, when to his surprise on digging he found the covered row fair and sound, while all the rest were badly rotted. This would seem to favor the theory that atmospheric action is the unseen agent which causes rot."

PURE SALT FOR DAIRY PURPOSES. A mode of manufacture entirely new, and different from any heretofore employed, has been adopted in the steam mill of Mr. B. Ransom, of Brooklyn, for grinding rock salt and preparing it for the table and the dairy. In this manner, a perfectly pure article is obtained, free from admixture with all foreign matter, and there can be no doubt that whenever it shall come into general use, our markets will no longer be clogged with that most unwholesome of all things taken into the human system—rancid butter, especially when impure salt is the cause. It has a most beautiful appearance, and in flavor is most suitable for the table, and those who have been so fortunate as to obtain it once, will, as a matter of economy and comfort, be sure to procure a constant supply of this useful and necessary article. [N. Y. Farmer.]

CONSUMPTION IN THE WEST. A correspondent of the Maine Farmer, writing from Wayne county, Illinois, states that he came there with a consumption which in Maine was regarded as "seated," but that he has now entirely recovered from it, though his emigration took place some years since.

We know of many parallel cases. One man came to this last season who was told by his physician in Connecticut to put his affairs in order within six months. He is now here, a well man, and likely to live forty years yet. This is only an instance out of a half dozen now in mind, of the same sort. Persons die sometimes of that disease in this State; but the cases are very few—much fewer, so far as we can judge, than the cases of those who are cured here. [Prairie Farmer.]

HOW TO MANAGE A KICKING COW. Take a piece of rope about two feet in length, and tie or splice the two ends together so as to form a loop. Double up by bending the fore leg of the milking side of the cow and slip the loop over her knee. By this means she will necessarily have to stand on three legs and will not be able to kick.

[American Agriculturist.]

ATTACKS FROM CATERPILLARS.

The tender buds and young leaves of the apple tree are sometimes attacked, in May and June, by multitudes of small caterpillars, described by Dr. Harris, under the name of the eye-spotted penthina (*Penthina ocula*). They are of a pale and dull-brown color, warty and slightly downy, with the head and the top of the first ring of a dark shining brown. They usually acquire their growth by the middle of June, at which time they transform, and come out in the winged state early in July. These caterpillars live singly in the buds or opening foliage, which they fasten together and devour. The only sure mode recommended to destroy them, is to crush the withered clusters of leaves containing them or their chrysalides, and thus "nip them in the bud."

The apple tree is also infested by the larvae of the white-marked orgia, or tussock moth (*Orgia leucostigma*). These small, slender caterpillars are of a bright yellow color, and are sparingly clothed with long and fine yellow hairs on the sides of their bodies. The females, in the adult state, though seemingly wingless, have two large scales, or stunted wings, while the males have large ash-gray wings, the upper pair of which, are crossed by dark wavy bands, with a small black spot near the tip, and a minute white crescent near the outer hind angle. The body of the male is small and slender, with a row of little tufts along the back, and the wings expand one inch and three eighths. The females are of a lighter gray than the males, and their bodies are much thicker, and are of an oblong-oval shape. Different broods of these insects appear at various times, in the course of the summer, but the greater number come to maturity and lay their eggs in the latter part of August and the beginning of September, which are not hatched before the following spring.

It is stated by the late Mr. B. H. Hovey, of Salem, Massachusetts, in vol. 1, p. 52, of Hovey's "Magazine of Horticulture," that on passing through an apple orchard in February, he "perceived nearly all the trees speckled with occasional dead leaves adhering so firmly to the branches as to require considerable force to dislodge them. Each leaf covered a small patch of from one to two hundred eggs, united together, as well as the leaf, by a gummy and silken fibre, peculiar to the moth." In the March following, he visited the same orchard, and as an experiment, cleared three trees, from which he took twenty-one bunches of eggs. The remainder of the trees he left untouched until the 10th of May, when he found the caterpillars were hatched from the egg, and had commenced their slow, but sure work of destruction. He watched them from time to time, until many branches had been spoiled of their leaves, and in the autumn were entirely destitute of fruit; while the three trees, which had been cleared of the eggs, were flush with foliage, each limb, without exception, ripening its fruit.

The American lackey caterpillar (*Clisiocampa americana*), whose proper attention has not been paid to prevent its ravages, prevails to such an extent as almost entirely to strip the orchards of their foliage. This insect, from its abundance in all parts of the country, and being known almost exclusively in common language, by the name of the caterpillar, requires no further description. Various methods have been recommended to destroy this pest, such as burning and crushing the nests, early in the morning, or at evening while the vermin are at their repose, and the collection and destruction of their eggs in the winter, or early part of spring. If a liberal bounty for the collection of the eggs were to be offered, as was suggested by the late Judge Lowell, and continued for the space of ten years, this enemy to our orchards would be nearly exterminated at the end of that time.

Another insect, which may be called the tree caterpillar of the forest (*Clisiocampa sylvestris*), very much resembling the preceding in its habits, preys upon the leaves of the oak, the hickory, and more rarely upon those of the apple tree. Two other species of gregarious caterpillars, *Notodonta coccinea* and *Pygma chrysa*, of Harris, also swarm on the apple, cherry, and plum trees, towards the end of summer, stripping whole branches of their leaves. The caterpillar of the American lappet moth (*Gastropacha americana*), appears in September, and makes the leaves of the apple its food, which it only eats in the night. A large green caterpillar (*Altica cecropia*), also makes its appearance on the apple tree in the months of July and August, as well as upon the currant, the barberry, the cherry, and the plum. [American Agriculturist.]

WASH FOR BUILDINGS. The following recipe was sent by a gentleman of New Orleans to his friend in Philadelphia, who writes that the wash was satisfactorily tested upon the roof of the Phoenix Foundry, in that neighborhood. It is not only a protection against fire, but renders brick work impervious to water. The basis is lime, which must first be slacked with hot water in a tub, to keep in the steam. It should then be passed, while in a semi-dry state, through a fine sieve. Take six quarts of the fine lime, and one quart of clean rock salt for each gallon of water—the salt to be dissolved by boiling, and the impurities to be skimmed off. To five gallons of this mixture, (salt and lime), add one pound of alum, half a pound of copers, three-fourths of a pound of potash, (the last to be added gradually,) four quarts of fine sand, or hard wood ashes. Add coloring matter to suit the fancy.

It should be applied with a brush. It looks as well as paint, and is as lasting as slate. It stops small leaks, prevents moss from growing, and renders the work unburnable.

[N. Y. Farmer.]

NEW LUBRICANT FOR MACHINERY. Mr. A. Bryson, F. R. S. C. E., has proposed a method for lubricating machinery, consisting of oil, sulphur, and vulcanized caoutchouc, which he considers to possess properties superior to any now in use.

IMPROVED METHOD OF MAKING CHARCOAL. A mode of manufacturing this substance, in France, is to fill all the interstices in the heap of wood to be charred, with dry, powdered charcoal; then cover the whole mass with earth or sods, and burn it the usual way. By this means, much of the access of air is prevented, and a saving of ten per cent. in volume as well as weight, of charcoal, will be gained over the ordinary mode.

[Am. Agriculturist.]

BUCKWHEAT.

As the time for sowing buckwheat is fast approaching, a few suggestions may be in place. We had hoped to have had some communications from practical men upon the subject, and shall receive any suggestions, and give them publicity with much pleasure. The change in the public feeling, in reference to the article, as suited for food, has been very great in a few years. What was once called unwholesome, and charged with producing a multitude of diseases, is now made, in very many families, an indispensable ingredient to a winter breakfast, and neither "zeab" nor "cavalcades" appear to have increased with its use. The flour is much better manufactured, and the art of cooking it is probably better understood. But notwithstanding our delight in the "griddle cakes," the "buckwheat cakes," the "mornin'-cakes," or whatever other modern name they may have assumed, still memory lingers with much pleasure about the days and scenes of "slap" or "slap-jacks."

The very name is significant, and brings us in imagination before the huge fire-places, in the old house, fitted with a "buck-log," three feet in diameter and four in length, a "top-stick," but little less, a "fore-stick," a little smaller, and room enough left in each corner for the boys to play "winkum and catumum." A good fire having been made on this foundation, next comes the good frying-pan, perhaps the identical one from which the fish jumped into the fire, with a handle, four feet and a half in length, the end of which was often supported by the top of a chair. All things ready, one cake filled the pan. When ready to turn over, the pan was taken from the fire, the cake shook a little to see that it did not stick, and then thrown into the air and caught as it fell the other side up. To do this nicely was quite an accomplishment. An inexperienced hand could not "slap" or "slap" them over without danger of dropping one occasionally into the ashes. When cooked they were buttered and honeyed, and stacked up on a large plate, and then divided as you would a pie.

But so happy were we in the recollection of those happy days, when "light and trifling things were childhood's woes," soothed by the smile of a mother; mother, the dearest name, save one of earthly sort, that we had almost forgotten that we sat down to write an article on raising buckwheat.

It is useless to say anything now, about the choice of land for this crop, as it is almost universally put on land which could not be put in order for any other crop. It was "too wet in the spring for oats," "we had so much to do, we could not get it ploughed in season to sow in the spring" or "it would not bear anything else, and so we left it for buckwheat," are some of the reasons given for sowing this or that field.

Whatever field you use, make it mellow. If it was sward, and was ploughed too late to admit of a second ploughing, the cultivator is a much more efficient instrument than the harrow. If the ground is ploughed in large furrows, let them be broken down before you put in the seed, then make the surface very fine and soft with the cultivator or harrow.

We once ploughed half a "land" of grass ground in April, and finished it the last week in June, and at that time sowed the whole with buckwheat, seeding and harrowing all alike. The outside of the piece gave more than double the grain which was yielded by the portion ploughed at sowing-time. There was no known cause of difference except the time of ploughing.

There is no crop we ever raised which will show as much gratitude for a little of any thing in the shape of manure, as buckwheat. We have succeeded pretty well in taking a piece of worn out meadow, turning it over in June, putting upon it a coat of yard manure, with buckwheat and herdgrass seed, and having sown it was smooth. The grass will be ready for mowing the next season.

SHOE-PEG MANUFACTORY.

Within thirty years we have seen two establishments for making shoe-pegs. The first was simple in its machinery. The raw material was a maple log in the wood-pile. This was operated upon by man with a leather apron and a common hand-saw. After cutting off a thin section of the log, it was split into slips with a shoe-knife and hammer; these slips were shaved to an edge on one side, split again, and the pegs were ready to be dried on a fire-shovel. In this way, a man could manufacture two or three quarts in a day. After witnessing the entire process, we concluded it was much better than to whistle out and cut from a stick each peg separately. This was our conclusion thirty years ago.

We have since seen an improvement upon this process. Mr. M. V. Reynolds, at Brown's Corner, in Vassalboro, has machinery in operation which can easily complete, of a most superior article, three hundred bushels a month! These are sold ready to the shoe-makers at \$1.25 to \$1.50 a bushel. The machinery of Mr. Reynolds' own invention, secured by patent. The pegs are superior, in several respects, to any others now made, and the demand is greater than can be met with the present machinery. The wood used is second growth yellow birch, which five to eight dollars a cord is paid. A cord will average fifty-five bushels of pegs. The wood is worked while green, and is saved, planed, pointed, split and polished by machinery. The ingenious proprietor contemplates enlarging his establishment. [Eastern Mail.]

HOW TO MAKE DROPPERS. Your friend "Reviewer," expresses so feelingly his disgust for "badly-fried nut cakes," one would think them almost as disagreeable as "dried cabbage leaves." Although we Pennsylvanians never eat "dough nuts," as we call them, except in winter, while I think of it, I will give you my recipe for making them, and it will be ready for use when the time arrives for wanting them. If "Reviewer" does not think too presumptuous for me to send it, or any such, to your "land o' cakes," we shall be glad to have him come to our cottage next Christmas and partake of them.

Take three pints of sweet milk, one and a half pounds of butter, six well beaten eggs, one tencupful of good yeast, one and a half pounds of clean brown sugar, and spice to your taste. Warm the milk and mix it with the eggs; then stir in the flour, which should also be warmed; beat the butter and pour it over the dough, kneading hot, and work it well; then add the yeast (brewers' yeast is best, and can always be got in winter) and beat the mass until the hands come out clean. Set it to rise in a warm place; and when light enough, have ready a broad, shallow boiler, half filled with boiling lard; cut off from the dough, pieces about an inch and a half each, in a lozenge, or diamond shape, and drop them into the lard. When of a light brown, and puffed out on both sides, they are done; take them out with a skimmer; drain them on a colander; remove them to broad dishes, and sprinkle them, while hot, with pulverized loaf sugar. Pure lard will not bubble when boiling hot, and must be tried by throwing into it a small piece of the dough; when, if at the boiling point, bubbles will instantly form around it.

[American Agriculturist.]

RAISING OF CABBAGE AND TURNIP SEED.

The great object in raising cabbage or turnip seed, is to place the plants where there will be no danger of being impregnated with the farina of any other of the cabbage or turnip tribe. A few good plants of one variety, should be selected and planted in the spring, in an open spot by themselves, where they may run to seed. No more than one sort, let it be remembered, can be safely grown in the same garden. [Am. Agriculturist.]

TO MAKE A PLEASANT COSMETIC SOAP.

Shave a quarter of a pound of old castile, or palm-oil soap, into soft, hot water, enough to cover it; boil and stir it quite smooth; turn it into an earthen bowl, and, while hot, stir in enough Indian corn or meal, to make a thick paste; add an ounce of oil of almonds, and some oil of lavender, rose, or other agreeable perfume; cover it closely in small glass bottles or jars, and put one on every washstand. [Am. Agriculturist.]

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DON'T PULL OFF THE SUCKERS.

It is not an unrequited practice with farmers at the second corn hoeing to pull off the corn or sprouts, commonly called suckers, which spring up at the foot of the main stalk. The argument is, their presence and growth abstract so much from the vigor and size of the main stalk. This is a great mistake—the main stalk is not injured or diminished in size, but on the contrary, much invigorated and supported by it. Besides, this sucker is indispensable to a full crop of corn.

The Zea Maiz (or Indian Corn) is a Dioecian plant; that is in its inflorescence the staminate and pistillate blossoms are on different parts of the same plant. The silk is the pistillate blossom, and has one thread attached to each kernel. The tassel is the staminate blossom, containing the pollen. As the silk and tassel make their appearance at the same time, the pollen being a fine dust, is brought by the agency of the wind in contact with the silk, and the generation of the kernel produced. In every instance in which any individual thread of the silk falls in contact with the pollen a vacancy on the cob occurs.

The tassel withers and the pollen disappears long before the silk attains its full growth. Hence the silk at the end of the cob fails to receive its supply of pollen, and the consequence is a barren cob end. To meet this deficiency of pollen, the sucker, which is only a tassel bearing plant, comes forward in exact time, and supplies the pollen, needful to the filling out of the end of the cob with grain. Undoubtedly this arrangement adds much to the crop of corn, and teaches us that the Creator's provisions are exactly right. Therefore, we are cautioned, Don't pull off the suckers.

[American Artisan.]

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[American Agriculturist.]

RAISING OF CABBAGE AND TURNIP SEED.

The great object in raising cabbage or turnip seed, is to place the plants where there will be no danger of being impregnated with the farina of any other of the cabbage or turnip tribe. A few good plants of one variety, should be selected and planted in the spring, in an open spot by themselves, where they may run to seed. No more than one sort, let it be remembered, can be safely grown in the same garden. [Am. Agriculturist.]

TO MAKE A PLEASANT COSMETIC SOAP.

Shave a quarter of a pound of old castile, or palm-oil soap, into soft, hot water, enough to cover it; boil and stir it quite smooth; turn it into an earthen bowl, and, while hot, stir in enough Indian corn or meal, to make a thick paste; add an ounce of oil of almonds, and some oil of lavender, rose, or other agreeable perfume; cover it closely in small glass bottles or jars, and put one on every washstand. [Am. Agriculturist.]

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TO MAKE A PLEASANT COSMETIC SOAP.

RURAL SCENERY.

It is surprising that so little attention is devoted to rural scenery, when we consider its benign and happy influence. Do you see your magnificent mansion, a noble pile, standing in lonely nakedness, without a tree, or a shrub, or any thing green near it? Turn your eye to the opposite hill side, and what do you see there? Do the sensibilities of your bosom begin to stir within you, as you look upon that little log cottage neatly whitewashed, and half concealed by the trees and shrubbery which surround it? Are there charms in that spot for which you look in vain to the pile of brick and mortar upon which thousands have been lavished, and which is destitute of the like attractions?

And how does it add to the attractions of the scene to consider that there are hearts in that humble abode capable of appreciating its beauties, nay, in whose depths it originated, and consequently that what the eye beholds, is but an exponent of the mental, moral and social beauties which dwell within! O, it is this which "lends enchantment to the scene!"

"I know it,



AUGUST, THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 1848.

WATER CEMENT.

A combination of lime with substances that contain iron, silica, or flint, and some alumina, (which is the basis of clay,) will generally form a mortar or cement, that will harden under water, and which, from this fact, is called water cement or hydraulic cement.

In some parts of New England, are found species of limestone that have the several ingredients so well mingled by nature that they can very easily be converted into water cement.

We have recently met with a new mode of making water cement, which, if it will always be as strong as the statements below would indicate, cannot fail of being a valuable discovery, and one that can be easily obtained and used. The account, which we saw, states that General Pasley, of the British army, is the discoverer of the mode, which is as follows:

Four parts (by weight) of chalk, and five parts (by weight) of blue clay.

This, it is said, will make a very strong cement for the purpose of laying bricks or stone in water, or anywhere else. Our account states that, in order to see what its strength was, an experimental pile was commenced horizontally from a wall, by means of the cement only as a support. A small rectangular portion of the supporting wall, sufficient for receiving the first brick, was scraped clean—the old mortar being removed from its joints to the depth of half an inch, this depth being again filled with the pure cement. The first brick being then attached to it by fresh cement, applied before that the joints had set. When a fresh brick was added, the face of the brick to which it was attached being also wetted, after which the cement was added to both surfaces; first in a thin coat to the wall or firm brick, and then in a thick layer to the new brick. After the placing of each brick, it was held by the hand firmly for ten minutes, in order to allow of the setting or hardening of the cement.

In this manner one brick was applied daily, until the pier attained such a length as to break by its own overhanging weight. The number of bricks sustained by this cement, was thirty-one, which stretched out, in a horizontal line, six feet and eleven and a half inches, and weighed one hundred and eighty-six pounds.

A composition was tried, consisting of three parts chalk and four parts of blue clay. This supported twenty-eight bricks, weighing one hundred and seventy-one pounds. It must be allowed, if this statement be correct, that Pasley's cement must be one of the cheapest and best known—yet many experiments should be tried with it in order to ascertain how, if exposed to the weather, it will stand the action of frosts and snows and rains for a series of years. It may do very well in mild climates, and yet not be of that durable nature which a cement of such pretensions should be. Experiments are very easily tried with it, as the articles are cheap and plenty. If it will hold its tenacity in all ordinary cases, it will do to make vessels and boxes and many structures of. Perhaps good grey clay may be also beneficially used in such experiments.

RASPBERRY VINEGAR. The raspberry harvest is at hand, and we copy from Alexander's Messenger, which is oftentimes pretty tart, the following mode of making raspberry vinegar. Put two quarts of freshly gathered, ripe raspberries into a stone or china vessel, and pour upon them a quart of vinegar. After standing twenty-four hours, strain them. Pour this liquid over two quarts more of fresh raspberries, and let it stand as before, and then strain a second time. Allow a pound of clear sugar (loaf sugar is best) to a pint of juice. After the sugar is melted in the juice, put it into a stone jar, cover it closely, and set it into a kettle of boiling water, and the water kept boiling for an hour. Then take off all the scum, and when cold, bottle for use. Mixed with water it makes a pleasant, cooling drink for people when sick with fevers.

IRON BUSINESS HARD. Iron is always hard, but just now a little harder than ever. The troubles in England have depressed the business of railway iron manufacture, and it has gone down. It can now be made in Wales at twenty dollars per ton. Of course that rouses up the manufacturers in this country, where men will not work for nothing and find themselves. The Warehams Mills suspended last week, and others in New England will stop as soon as they have supplied existing contracts.

PASSERS OF COUNTERFEIT MONEY ARRESTED. Three passers of counterfeit money were arrested in Boston last week, namely, G. Lincoln, Robert Brewster and George M. Gibson—the latter being a sort of wholesale dealer in the article, supplying the others for the retail trade. He is reputed to be worth several thousand dollars, and kept an office on "Change. On his way to safe quarters (not counterfeit) he "took on"—actually felt so bad that he was induced to open his heart and offer the other who had him in charge the tempting little sum of two hundred dollars just to lose his handcuffs and give him a chance to show the public a specimen of tall walking. The ungrateful and not over-avaricious man of authority heeded not the liberal proposition—turned a deaf ear to the unhappy man's entreaties, and walked on to the lock-up. Such hard-hearted, inflexible beings ought not to be "dressed in a little brief authority"—they ought!

VANCOUVER'S ISLAND. Mr. Palmer, of Indiana, who has explored much of the country north of Columbia river, says Vancouver's Island is as large as the Island of Great Britain, and contains all the resources required to make it a rich and powerful country.

MAKING BRICKS WEATHER PROOF. After a new brick house, or an old one either, has become perfectly dry in summer, give one or two new coats of boiled linseed oil.

EDUCATE YOURSELF. If for nothing else, to be company for yourself when alone. A writer has very plausibly remarked that of all poor devils, an ignorant man, left alone, is the most to be pitied.

THE FOURTH.

The fire companies of Augusta, Hallowell, Gardiner and Pittston, intend to celebrate Independence Day in a becoming manner, at Hallowell. All the necessary preparations have been made. Several bands of musicians are engaged. Orator of the day—Hon. J. T. P. Dumont.

The Democrats of Penobscot county propose to hold a "grand mass meeting of the friends of Cass and Butler," at Bangor, on the 4th. They extend a general invitation to their friends, throughout the State. "Distinguished speakers from abroad" are announced.

The 4th will be celebrated at South Prospect Village. Orator of the day—N. G. Hitchcock.

The Sons of Temperance in Thomaston and vicinity, are to have a grand temperance celebration at West Thomaston, on the 4th. Orator—A. P. Gould.

There is to be a temperance celebration at Camden on the 4th. A general invitation is extended. Orator of the day not mentioned.

The Democrats of York County and of the First Senatorial District, meet at Alfred, on the 4th, for the purpose of nominating Senators and county officers, and also for the purpose of having a political "jollification."

The Somerset county Temperance Society will celebrate the 4th at Canaan Village. All temperance people are invited.

The ladies of the Baptist Society in Waterville, will hold a fair on the 4th. In the evening an oration will be pronounced by Isaac C. Pray, Esq.

The Liberty party people of Penobscot are to hold a mass meeting in Exeter, on the 4th. A general invitation is extended.

The people of Readfield, Winthrop, East Livermore, Wayne, Fayette and Mt. Vernon, met to have a mass temperance celebration on the 4th, at some convenient place.

The Sons of Temperance, Rechabites, and friends of the cause generally, are to have a grand temperance celebration at Lewiston Falls on the 4th.

The Free Masons, Odd Fellows and Sons of Temperance, are to have a union celebration, on the 4th, at Ellsworth. Orator—Asa Walker, editor of the Bangor Gazette.

From all accounts we think the day will be thoroughly celebrated.

SALMON are more abundant in the Saint Croix river this season than they have been for many years. Several hundreds have been caught at this place. Eight cents per pound is the price at which salmon may now be bought. [Calais Advertiser.]

There has been a good run of salmon up the Kennebec this season—better than for several years back. Many have been taken from their cool element at this place, and sold readily at a shilling per pound—twice the sum paid for them by our farther up-east friends. The dam here prevents their farther upward progress, makes August the headquarters of salmon (not steamboat) navigation, and deprives our Ticonic friends of a luxury they once enjoyed. "Long time ago" this fish of fishes was so plenty in the waters of the Kennebec that the inhabitants all along its banks caught enough for present use and future store; but their visits are now "few and far between." The majority of those which are disposed to do the honest thing by us, are captured on their journey hither by our avaricious down-river neighbors, who pack them in ice, and send them to Boston, New York, and other villages of some pretensions. Salmon have been plenty this season, we believe, in the Penobscot and Saint John—in fact, in the latter river "oceans" of them are taken annually, and run into the city markets. Our people, always thankful for small favors, feel grateful for this season's generous supply of the king of river-running fishes.

LUCKY FORT. Willis, in the Home Journal, states that three hundred dollars were recently paid to an American poet, for a "Rough and Ready" campaign song. The fortunate author is understood to be Charles Fennell Hoffman. [Woonsocket Patriot.]

Song-singing has become quite popular of late in the political circles. "Cass and Butler" and "Taylor and Fillmore" campaign songs have already appeared in the antagonistic journals, and all the enthusiastic politicians in the country are tuning their voices, and will soon, no doubt, have so much music in their souls as to unfit them for "stratagems and spoils." Singing-masters and poets are in great demand; and, as in the above case, are coming money out of the business. From present appearances we should judge that, if there be any virtue in political music, both Cass and Taylor are bound to come in. It's neck-and-neck with them now. We have one stanza which we feel disposed to throw to the breeze, for the benefit of both parties; and, as it is not purely original, we shall not exact the first red cent for it.

On Politics' stormy banks we stand,
And cast a wistful eye
To Uncle Sam's little patch of land
Where all the spoils do lie.

This should be sung "with the spirit and the understanding also."

THE PRESIDENTY—TROUBLE AMONG THE BOYS.

The boys of these dignified hall at a very spirited political meeting, at the Lazy-pole, a few nights since, we are informed. Sam Snooks and Bob Snipes, the leaders of two squads, who always go the regular ticket, advocated, with perfect tornado enthusiasm, the claims of General Cass and General Taylor; while Bill Spikes and Jack Strikes, the champions of the two squads which have bolted the regular nominations, and who are bent on nominating two independent candidates, advocated, with a good deal of warmth, the claims of Old Zach and John Barnburn. Each speaker, in turn, lauded his favorite candidate, and ridiculed those of his opponents. At the close of the meeting a ballot was had to test the strength of the different squads, which resulted as follows: General Cass had 6, General Taylor 6, Old Zach 6, and John Barnburn 6. Just nip-and-tuck. Four tremendous huzzas were given for the rival candidates, and the meeting adjourned sine die.

P. S. We learn that another squad, not represented at the above-named meeting, have serious thoughts of nominating Rough-and-Ready for the Presidency. If they should, why, there's more trouble.

A CHANCE FOR APPRENTICES. The American Institute hold their fair in New York city, in October; and they have appropriated five hundred dollars to be distributed in premiums to be awarded to apprentices for specimens of their work.

FIREMEN'S CELEBRATION.

The Committee of Arrangements for the Firemen's Celebration of the 4th of July next at Hallowell, respectfully invite, through the undersigned, the Governor of Maine and his staff, including the Heads of Departments, the Executive Council, both branches of the Legislature, and citizens generally, to join them on that occasion. The following order of procession is directed by the Chief Marshal:

Aid. Chief Marshal. Aid.

Engine Company. Uncle Sam, Augusta.

Band. " " " " " " " "

President of the day and Vice President.

Orator, Chaplain, and reader of the Declaration of Independence.

Members of the Executive Council, two abreast.

President of the Senate and Secretary.

Members of the House and Clerk.

Members of the House and Clerk.

Citizens generally, four abreast.

The procession will be formed in front of the Hallowell House, at 10 o'clock A. M., and proceed thence through Second Street; passing the southerly side of the Old South Meeting House to Third Street; thence through Third to Winthrop Street; thence through Winthrop to Front Street; thence through Front Street to the Old South.

The galleries of the Meeting House are to be reserved for the ladies, and the body pews for the procession.

The several engine companies, and all others who intend joining the procession, are desired to be ready at the place of formation before the time fixed therefor. Should any engine companies from other towns, who have been invited, be present, the Chief Marshal will see that places are assigned them respectively.

G. W. BACHELDER, Chief Marshal.

Gardner, June 24, 1848.

FEEDING UP. The New Orleans Delta recommends giving political banquets during the coming Presidential campaign. We suppose the object of that is to give those who cannot speak themselves into favor, a chance to eat themselves into notice. In that case, the value of a demagogue's service would be estimated by the amount of pudding he could swallow.

LAWYERS IN A PUZZLE. They have a law in St. Louis, forbidding all musical instruments to be played in the streets. A Scotch piper, who was assigned, got clear from a fine, on account of a disagreement among the lawyers whether a bagpipe was a musical instrument or not. They might have known from their own experience, that being a bag of wind doesn't always make a musical instrument.

NATIONAL REFORMERS. This new party have nominated Gerrit Smith for President, and William S. Wick, of Illinois, for Vice President.

MR. PAFINEAU. This distinguished Canadian patriot has had a turn on the wheel of fortune, and come up again. He was one of the patriots, had to flee on the overthrow of the party, spent some time in France, returned after the amnesty was granted, became a member of the Canadian Parliament again, and is now addressing the people on the subject of separation from Great Britain.

UNDER-GROUND MILL STREAM. The Hadley Falls Company, in cutting through the rocks and earth to make a race-way for their mills, cut into a subterranean stream, flowing from the Connecticut, thirty or forty feet below the railroad. It seems the old Connecticut had an under-ground race-way of its own for many years.

HONOR TO LIEUT. WILKES. The Royal Geographical Society of England, have conferred a gold medal upon Lieut. Wilkes of our navy, as a testimony of their approbation of his labors and discoveries during the exploring expedition which he commanded.

THE DROWNING CATCHING A STRAW. J. R. Drowning, of Buffalo, N. Y., was on the 15th ult., married to Mary A. Straw. The Drowning man meant to get a Straw this time that would hold him up.

INDIA RUBBER RAILROADS. We are told that the new track of the Stonington Railroad is laid on India rubber, and the cars mounted on India rubber springs, which removes the shakes of the car, and diminishes the rumbling of the wheels.

A GOOD PLAN. The Spanish peasant, when he eats a good apple or peach, plants the seed by the way-side, that it may spring up and grow.

A PLEASANT PREVENTIVE. The physicians of Constantinople recommend for the people to eat dry figs to prevent the cholera.

GEORGE SANDS. The French novels purporting to be written by George Sands, are in reality written by Madame Duvenant; and this same Madame was caught distributing pistols and other arms to persons who were on their way to overthrow the national assembly recently.

PRESSING HAT—A GOOD DAY'S WORK. I. Marston writes to the editor of the Waterbury Mail as follows: "One of my boys, with the help of a Frenchman, pressed, on the 10th inst., thirty-six bales of hay, weighing 12,887 pounds. The press used was Paine's patent."

A MAN KILLED IN WHITEFIELD. On Wednesday last week, a melancholy affair transpired in Whitefield. A number of persons had assembled in that town for their teams, for the purpose of moving a barn belonging to a Mr. Clark. Among those assembled, were Mr. Michael Kavanagh and John Fields. During the operation of moving the barn, Kavanagh and Fields partook of the liquor provided for the occasion—soon after they had some words in relation to a good-bye. Fields struck Kavanagh and killed him. A warrant for the apprehension of Fields has been issued, but he cannot be found. No person acquainted with the circumstances, believes that Fields intended to murder Kavanagh. Fields has a wife and four children; Kavanagh was 30 years of age, without a family. [Gardiner Fountain.]

CHEAP POSTAGE. It is stated that the Province of Canada, Nova Scotia and N. Brunswick, are about to combine together and fix the rate of postage to and from the different parts of those countries at the uniform rate of three pence.

A FLAT. One of the hands on a North River steamer recently rode on the walking-beam, from Sing-Sing to New York, at the rate of twenty miles an hour. The piston had fourteen feet stroke, and the rider rode and fell that distance, with a velocity to make a spectator's head ache.

LEGISLATIVE COMPEND.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29.

SENATE. *Petition referred.*—Timothy May, of St. Albans, Vt., for a new County to be made from portions of Kennebec, Somerset and Waldo.

Patent applied.—Bills in relation to the Androscoggin and Kennebec Railroad Company to increase its capital stock; to change the name of Salt Water Falls Co., and extend the time to complete its works; to establish the York and Cumberland Railroad Company; to protect certain buildings against fire; to provide in part for the expenditures of government.

Message received.—The Governor announcing various Major Generals in the 1st, 2d, 7th, and 9th Divisions of the Militia of Maine.

Resolved. That Congress has no power under the Constitution to interfere with the domestic institutions of the several States, and that such States are the sole and proper judges of everything appertaining to their own affairs, not prohibited by the Constitution; that all efforts of the abolitionists, or others, made to induce Congress to interfere with questions of slavery, or to take ineffectual steps in relation to the same, are calculated to excite dangerous and dangerous consequences; and all such efforts have an inevitable tendency to diminish the happiness of the people, and to endanger the peace and tranquility of the Union, and ought not to be countenanced by any friend of our political institutions.

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ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA.

The Royal Mail Steamer Britannia arrived at Halifax at four o'clock, on Friday morning, June 28th, having left Liverpool on the 10th.

SEVEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

[From the Boston Atlas, 28th.]

The Royal Mail Steamer Britannia arrived at Halifax at four o'clock, on Friday morning, June 28th, having left Liverpool on the 10th. The steamer Buena Vista left, with the news brought by the Britannia within an hour of her arrival, and reached Portland about one o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Cap. Jarvis immediately procured a locomotive engine and came up to the city, arriving at half-past four o'clock.

In London, the money market remained without alteration, and there was no disposition to loan, except upon first rate security.

The cotton market at Liverpool was rather languid, sales being mostly confined to immediate requirements, and buyers were feeling rather desirous of realizing. Prices, therefore, slightly receded.

The extremely fine growing weather which continues to prevail, exercises a very depressing effect on the grain trade in all parts of the United Kingdom.

The manufacturing districts do not exhibit much more activity than last reported.

Ireland. The events of the past week are not very important, and the only connection of the Irish Confederation have at last fraternized. A new society, to be composed of the members of both these bodies, is to be formed. It is to assume the title of the "United Irishmen."

The committee of the Repeal association have agreed as to the terms of the new association. It is to be called the "Irish League," and each member is to be responsible only for his own conduct and feelings.

France. It was rumored in Paris, and announced by the Commerce, on the 8th inst, that a certain "high personage," who had just arrived at London, had been arrested.

The person alluded to is said to be the Prince de Joinville.

After a stormy debate in the National Assembly, a decree for preventing tumultuous assemblies in the streets, was carried by 478 against 52.

Paris was tranquil, but the groups of men assembled at the Porte St. Denis and the Porte St. Martin, having become more numerous, on Monday afternoon, the 15th inst, the authorities, in order to prevent the groups of the line were determined to disperse them.

As they refused to retire, after having been three times summoned to do so, the soldiers charged with fixed bayonets. A number of persons were arrested, but they were afterwards set at liberty.

Louis Blanc had made his defence before the Committee charged with the having been concerned in the insurrectionary movement of May 15th, and the committee rejected the proposition to grant the Procureur General leave to proceed against him, by a vote of 369 to 351.

Upon this, Jules Favre, who had reported the resolution of impeachment, M. Portalis, and M. de la Motte, Ministers of Foreign Affairs, tendered their resignations, but they had not yet been accepted.

On the 5th inst, M. Seurat was elected President of the Chamber in place of M. Bouché.

The rumor of a probable retirement of Lamartine and Ledru Rollin is yet current.

The Press states that the commission on the constitution has decided on the following important points: The political constitution of France shall be a Republic, the Executive Government shall be conferred on the President appointed by direct universal suffrage, by communes, for four years without a possible re-election. Two millions of votes, at least, to be necessary for the nomination of the President.

At Lyons there have been fresh outrages, and the laborers on the Rouen Railway have demanded the expulsion of some Englishmen yet employed on the line. The directors of all the railroad companies have, in consequence, unanimously resolved not to concede to their unreasonable demands.

Further disturbances have occurred at Limoges, in consequence of the authorities having ordered the arrest of a man named M. L. who was charged with having been concerned in the insurrectionary movement of May 15th.

The French steamer St. Denis arrived at Havre on Sunday from the United States, bringing the sum of 26,000 francs, subscribed in favor of the war of February, by the inhabitants of New York.

A telegraphic dispatch announces a legitimate insurrection at Perpignan, in favor of Henry V.

CONSTITUTIONAL NEWS.—The following is an abstract of the general continental news from Willmer & Smith's European Times:

The Continental news is still of a grave character. By a successful, and we hope a decisive, battle, the hopes of Austria, with regard to the retention of Italy, are annihilated. The Piedmontese and the Lombardians have pronounced in favor of the Union; and Charles Albert, who is now regarded as the champion of the crown, Germany, especially Prussia and Austria, continues in a very unsatisfactory state, whilst the renewal of hostilities in Schleswig, now acknowledged to be caused by the armed intervention of Russia, which hope, lead to an immediate and satisfactory arrangement, which we deemed perfectly desirable from mere mediation, however influential.

A junction having been formed between the Austrian armies of Nugent and Sadek, the Austrian united forces amounted to 30,000 men, we can learn, to about 30,000 men engaged in the battle, and the Piedmontese had probably about the like number in the field, although the whole army of Charles Albert amounted to 60,000.

On the 30th ult, the two armies came to battle, which appears to have been one in which the artillery on both sides were chiefly brought into play. The Austrians, however, were routed, and the Piedmontese and Neapolitan lines, and completely routed them, and having advanced to Gotta, on the morning of the 30th, Charles Albert was compelled to come into France. For some time he appeared to act entirely upon the defensive, from one o'clock till six, seemed in great

doubt which way the fortune of the day would turn. But, however, the Austrian forces at length gave way, and retired in the direction of Mantua. At the moment of victory, which the Piedmontese claim, the fortunate intelligence of the fall of Peschiera reached the camp, together with news of the decision, by ballot, of the union of Lombardy with Piedmont.

The Italian combined army seemed highly elated with their prospects; and the campaign having now begun in earnest, we trust that either by force of arms, or by some amicable arrangement, that peace will soon be restored to Italy. The people of Italy are rejoicing at the prospect of becoming free.

Letters from Ferrara state that the Neapolitan troops refuse to cross the Po, to join the allied army. The moment is critical, to the intelligence from Naples, announcing that the Neapolitan army has passed the Straits of Messina, with ten pieces of cannon, to assist their brothers in Calabria. The famous Romeo and Juliet have been landed at Civita Vecchia, and were on the road to join the insurgents.

The King of the Two Sicilies will scarcely be able to resist the overwhelming feeling which has now set against him. The royal army, however, is still in the hands of the Emperor, and the people marching on the capital.

In Vienna matters continue in the same state; all endeavors to induce the Emperor to return to his capital have failed. The Russian ambassador has joined the Court at Vienna, and the Emperor has declared his inability. The retirement of the Emperor has created the greatest excitement in the Hungarian, Servian, and Croatian parts of the empire, and it is impossible to form a conjecture as to the consequences which may ensue.

Mrs. Mitchell and her children is still expressed, and the funds solicited on their behalf are daily increasing.

On Monday, the 5th, Mr. John O'Connell announced that the next meeting of both the Conciliation-hall folks and the Confederates would take place on the next Monday, June 12, after which both would adjourn sine die, and the new association be brought into existence.

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From Central America. The N. O. Crescent has received news by way of Havana from Central America to the 3d ult.

Gen. Carrera, President of Guatemala, left the capital with some forces on March 17th, in order to direct the operations against the insurgents who kept the country in a state of continual inquietude.

The people of the revolted districts are weary about and suffering the greatest misery. Much injury has been caused to the commerce of Guatemala by the interruption of the mails and the seizure of foreign letters by the insurgents. In Jutiapa, Alta and at other points, there have been encounters with the Indians, in which they fought with much valor, although almost always beaten by the Government troops, who have recovered fresh courage since Carrera has taken command in person.

REMOVED BATTLE AND MARCHES AT JACMEL. Capt. Bailey, of bark Panchito, reports that, from Jacmel, reports that a gentleman from St. Thomas informed him that when coming down in the English steamer, the pilot (Jacmel, St. Domingo, told them that the negroes had been driven from the island, twenty miles from the day before, but were murdering about two hundred men, women and children, and drinking their blood!

A day or two since, a letter was received in this city, stating that two bands of pickets had marched towards Jacmel with determinations of murder and of pillage. This is probably the result of that expedition.

Traveller. LATER FROM YUCATAN. By the schooner Fanny Gray from Laguna, over the Gulf, we learn that the Indians were around Merida in great force. Fifteen thousand people had taken refuge in that city, and destitute with no chance of escape. Campaigns were also full. The Governor of Yucatan, General D. Comandante, refusing to have any more Indians landed on that island, except females. Great numbers of neutral Indians are flocking to that place for refuge. Things look worse than ever. [N. Y. Express.]

IMPORTANT COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH NEW GRENADA. The Washington Union, on Friday, publishes the treaty of commerce with New Grenada, just ratified by the Senate. Mr. Bidlack, our Minister to that Government, has succeeded in having the heavy duty on sugar reduced from 10 to 5 cents per pound, and the duty on coffee from 10 to 5 cents per pound.

By this treaty, New Grenada proposes to the government and citizens of the United States the right of passage across the territory of New Grenada, and to the United States the right of passage across the territory of New Grenada, and to the United States the right of passage across the territory of New Grenada.

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